

Miss D. Clayton.

The Weekly Sunbeam

Vol. III. LOCUST GROVE, SONOMA, SEPTEMBER 17, 1883. No. 13

A Trip to the Geysers.

By A. H. Caff.

Continued.

All was quiet, and I was breathlessly awaiting either the return of the two bucks or to hear the report of Gilbert's gun, but not a sound was audible save the twittering of the birds that were flying around in the bushes. I was about to call to the boys when bang! went the gun and I heard a shout of triumph from them. I gave one bound and without any seeming exertion went crashing through the ravine, eager to know the result of the shot, and soon found myself in sight of Gilbert and Waldemar bending over some fallen object and exclamations of delight broke from every lip as the young buck gave his last kick and expired.

Gilbert's shot had proved fatal and the game we long had sought was lying at our feet, but the question was, who would skin it? None of us knew how, never having had any experience at the business, but as we were determined to have a good feast on the deer we rolled up our sleeves and resolved to try. The task was by no means easy, and in about an hour the skin was with difficulty taken off, cut into shreds, and not a piece left large enough to make a hat. We soon had the deer cut into quarters and as it

was too heavy to take to the Geysers and back we took some rope and tied it to a limb about 10 feet from the ground.

The killing of the deer was the subject of conversation until we were within about three miles of the Geysers, when a terrible odor greeted us. After much disputing on the cause of it, we finally concluded that it was the peculiar smell which is given off by the Geyser Springs.

The terminus of our journey was reached about sun-down the same day, and being very tired we postponed our visit to the Springs till next morning, and struck camp for the night. We did not sleep very comfortably as the numerous ants would occasionally awake us with a vigorous bite.

The next morning we went to the hotel and paid the clerk \$1.50 to pay for admittance to the Geyser Springs. A few minutes walk found us on the Devil's Pulpit which is a high mound of rock with a seat on top. From here we witnessed the largest spring called the Steamboat Geyser. The boiling lime and water issued from the ground and flowed down the side of the mountain, and was really a sight worth seeing. We next turned our steps to Geyser Canyon, where numerous small springs of lime and water pour fourth from the ground, and each of us filled a small bottle with the water

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to keep as a curiosity.

After viewing the scene before us a short time we turned our steps homeward and at about noon found ourselves at the place where the deer was killed. The meat had not been touched by any animals or birds as we had expected, so we took it down from the tree and continued our journey. About 5 o'clock in the evening we arrived at the camping place where we had hidden our bundles the day before, and found everything just as we had it. Supper was quickly provided and we had a feast on venison that would have been fit for a king.

To be continued.

Editorial Notes.

The other day we received *Our Sedan*. We can instantly form our opinion; that is, that it has taken a sudden jump and struck the landing on a higher step than before. It is also very much improved in typographical appearance and the clearness of the impression. There are no such nonsensical items and stories as previous to its last issue, and we hope there will be none in future ones. There are two new poems and a good story besides quite a number of interesting Amateur Notes. We say again that the whole paper is exceedingly good. We also wish to thank the editor for his photograph which accompanies it.

We would like to see a few amateur papers started somewhere in Sonoma Co. If any one knows of an amateur any where in Sonoma or Napa Co. we would be much obliged to them if they would send us the address.

This is the exact copy of a composition on the Camel by one of our school-mates:—

The camel is a hump backed animal is is used in carrying peopl on journees it is very useful to everybody and the camel is found both in Asia and Africa they have three or four camels in Woodward's Gardens They will walk a

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long ways and besides they have a very long neck Its color is kind of grayish it hoof is very large also and some camels are of an enormous and it is kind of wooly.

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LOCALS.

Miss B. Landsborough, Mr. H. Coghill and Ivy Greene went to the city Tuesday morning Miss Landsborough returned on Thursday.

Mrs. Lubeck made a short visit to San Francisco last week.

Master King Gray had a pair of guinea-pigs sent him the other day.

Some of the young ladies attended by Arthur Landsborough went to the party at Miss Whitman's (about 8 miles above Sonoma,) last Friday night.

Our music-teacher, Mr. Heymanson, did not come up as usual on Friday night.

SONOMA ITEMS

Mr. F. R. Corbaley displayed the only flag on Admission Day (over the Union Livery Stable).

A number of St. Patrick's Cadets are now encamped at Glen Ellen, where they have been all last week.

The Sonoma Pioneer Bear Flag was in the procession at Napa on Admission Day.

We were sorry to hear of the sudden death of Mr. Wyne, a respected citizen of this city.

ARRIVALS.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray; Mrs. Lewis; Mr. J. W. Foard; Mr. H. M. Whitely; Mr. Grant; Mr James.

AMATEUR NOTES.

The *Amateur Item* has greatly improved in size and typography.

The *Coon* has greatly improved since its last.

Amateur Pensee is exceedingly neat. A new publication.

En Passant is also very good.

The *Monthly Reporter* is another very delapidated paper received by us.

The *Coster* has recommenced its semi-monthly appearance after a vacation of a month or so.

The *Bugle* of September 1st was received last week.

The *Schoolboy* is exceedingly neat in its last issue.

The *Bumble Bee* from Alameda begins a new volume in its next number: we wish it success through the coming year.

The *Terror* is a new one from Buffalo N. Y.: as also the *Buzz-Saw* of Mc Lean, Ill.

The *Wigwam*, although enlarged, is by no means as neat as its smaller size. The ink was so wet when we received it that we were able to gild the first page.

We thank the Ed. of the *Bumble Bee* for his Christmas number, which he very kindly sent us.

The *American Sphinx* was received with due courtsey last week.

The *Umpire State Amateur* is a lively paper, and its contents are well written.

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Book Review.

"Through a Thei mometer," a Christmas Romance, by Erle Douglas, is the title of a very neat and well written amateur book of 33 pages. The press work is excellent with the exception of a few omitted words which probably fell out in printing. The binding reflects great credit on the publisher, and well shows the ability of amateurs in publishing books. Price 5 cents.

Another interesting production is Jim Skaggs of Skaggsville, A Sierran Sketch, containing 74 pages, by Lawrence Legif. The printing is exceedingly clear and looks very well on tinted paper. The binding of this volume, like the preceding one, is well executed, and the general appearance presents a very neat amateur publication. Price 15 cents. Address the publisher, Philip I. Figel, 1414 McAllister St., San Francisco, Cal.

The above books are the first specimens of amateur work we have received, and therefore our criticism may not be *perfect*, but would be more so if we had other productions to compare with it. So we would like very much to receive many more amateur books, and if our expectations are rewarded, a library would form an important feature in our sanctum.

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